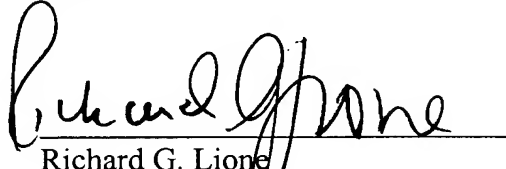


REMARKS

The specification is amended to make record therein of the priorities claimed. The Claims are amended to reduce their number.

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX AVersion With Markings to Show Changes MadeCLAIMS

4. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 3], wherein said autogenous regulatory factor is a butyrolactone autogenous regulatory factor.
5. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 3], wherein said autogenous regulatory factor is virginiae butanolide.
6. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 5], wherein said gene expression inducing system is involved in a production of an antibiotic.
7. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 5], wherein said gene expression inducing system is involved in a production of virginiamycin.
8. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 7], wherein said repressor gene is a barA gene.
9. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 8], wherein said repressor gene contains a region comprising a nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:1.

10. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 9], wherein said repressor gene contains a region coding for an amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2.

11. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 10], wherein a promoter for said repressor gene is a plant promotor.

13. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 12], wherein a nucleotide sequence of said operator is derived from a barA, barB or barX gene.

14. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 12], wherein a nucleotide sequence of said operator is BARE-1, BARE-2 or BARE-3.

15. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 12], wherein a nucleotide sequence of said operator is BARE-3.

16. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 15], wherein the nucleotide sequence of said operator contains a region comprising a nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:3.

17. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 16], wherein a promoter for said gene placed under the control of the operator is a plant promoter.

19. (Amended) The method according to Claim 17 [or 18], wherein said operator is disposed in at least one place in said plant promoter.

20. (Amended) The method according to Claim 17 [or 18], wherein said operator is disposed in at least one place in the vicinity of a site 3' downstream or in the vicinity of a site 5' upstream of a TATA box of said plant promoter.

21. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 17 [to 20], wherein said operator is disposed, together with the TATA box of said plant promoter, in a manner shown under any of SEQ ID NO:4 through SEQ ID NO:7.

22. (Amended) The method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 21], wherein said gene placed under the control of the operator is a gene capable of providing the plant with fertility.

23. (Amended) A plant transformed by the method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 22].

24. (Amended) Tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum L.) transformed by the method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 22].

25. (Amended) A cultured plant cell transformed by the method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 22].

26. (Amended) A cultured tobacco cell transformed by the method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 22].

27. (Amended) A cultured tobacco BY2 cell transformed by the method according to [any of] Claim[s] 1 [to 22].

30. (Amended) The repressor gene according to Claim 28 [or 29] wherein said repressor gene is a barA gene.

31. (Amended) The repressor gene according to [any of] Claim[s] 28 [to 30] wherein said repressor gene contains a region comprising a nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:1.

32. (Amended) The repressor gene according to [any of] Claim[s] 28 [to 31] wherein said repressor gene contains a region coding for an amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2.

35. (Amended) The modified promoter according to Claim 33 [or 34], wherein a nucleotide sequence of said operator is BARE-1, BARE-2 or BARE-3.

36. (Amended) The modified promoter according to [any of] Claim[s] 33 [to 35], wherein the nucleotide sequence of said operator contains a region comprising a nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:3.

37. (Amended) The modified promoter according to [any of] Claim[s] 33 [to 36], wherein said operator is disposed, together with the TATA box of said plant promoter, in a manner shown under any of SEQ ID NO:4 through SEQ ID NO:7.